

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Arlington Public Library  
June 20, 2016  
Central Library - Auditorium**

- I. **Call to Order:** 6:42 PM, Present: Kimberly Reinhard-President; Kate Summers-Vice President; Jeremy Pevner-Treasurer; Nada Sulaiman-Secretary; David Evans-Plaza Representative, Eva Griffeth-Central Representative; Linda Goldberg-Cherrydale Representative; Lynwood Sinnamon-FOAL Member; Shari Henri-Library Staff and FOAL Membership
  
- II. **President's Remarks:** Kimberly Reinhard welcomed FOAL members and reviewed FOAL's activities and accomplishments over the past year. Kimberly thanked FOAL's wonderful volunteers who helped at the book sale, Lit Up Ball and Chipotle fundraiser. FOAL is looking forward to working with volunteers even more this year. Kimberly asked those interested in volunteering to please visit FOAL's website. Kimberly next reviewed FOAL's activities over the past year.
  - a. **Puzzle Fest:** FOAL's annual Puzzle Fest was held on November 7, with over 90 participants. Puzzle Fest will be held this year on Saturday, November 5.
  
  - b. **Arlington Reads:** Arlington Read's *Human Displacement in World War II* theme drew standing room only crowds with authors like Anthony Doerr, Julie Otsuka and Richard Reeves.
  
  - c. **Lit Up Ball:** The Lit Up Ball was a smashing success. This year's Alice in Wonderland themed ball at the Clarendon Ballroom featured amazing costumes, prizes, Bumper Jacksons live music, dancing games, creative cocktails, fancy food, including a macaroon bar, and great company. Gift baskets were raffled off to raise money for *1,000 Books Before Kindergarten*. This program encourages families to read 1,000 books with their children before kindergarten.
  
  - d. **Book Sale:** FOAL had two book sales that were a great success due to wonderful volunteers, library staff, board members, and generous shoppers. In fact, the spring sale was the best grossing book sale in history.
  
  - e. **Chipotle Fundraiser:** FOAL held its first ever Chipotle fundraiser, raising over \$700 simply by eating burritos and mentioning FOAL at Arlington Chipotle locations on June 12. FOAL plans to hold a similar event in the future. This year FOAL has approximately 700 active members and hopes this number will grow so that FOAL can continue to provide amazing programs.
  
  - f. **Other Programs:** A few of the other programs FOAL supported this year include:

- i. The annual Summer Reading program for children, teens and adults. For every person who completes the program, FOAL donates \$1 to charity. This year, 6662 people participated and FOAL donated \$6662 to the Reading Connection, a local charity that improves literacy for children and families in the area by reading aloud to children in shelters, providing free new books to children, holding parent workshops on literacy and training family support workers. FOAL is thrilled to be able to support Reading Connection this year.
- ii. Collection support, maintenance and growth of the library's collection.
- iii. Crafter and maker events, such as *Crafterdark*.
- iv. *Gardens*, a children's planting program and an adult composting program.
- v. *Adult Recess*, an evening of play in the library where adults get to be kids again with games, Nerf fights, dancing and more.
- vi. *Books on Tap*, a monthly book club at a local pub.
- vii. *Beefcakes and Cupcakes*, a romance novel swap and cupcake decoration event.
- viii. *Commuter Book Club*, a book club on Twitter so you can join the chat with changing your routine.
- ix. Adult coloring books, with de-stressing coloring stations at libraries where adults can stop by, color and unwind.

Kimberly thanked FOAL members for their support and asked anyone who is not already a member to please sign-up today. Those interested could provide their email address on the sign-up sheet located by the front table to receive FOAL membership information.

**III. Remarks by Diane Kresh, Director of the Arlington Public Library:** On behalf of the Library Staff, Diane thanked FOAL for its work, not just this year, but also every year. Diane stated that the Library has a very positive relationship with FOAL and a terrific partnership. Diane also stated that she enjoyed working with Kimberly. Kimberly is upbeat and gets things done, and Diane and the Library Staff will miss her and wish her well. Diane looks forward to a great working relationship with Kate.

**IV. Treasurer Report:** Referring to a document entitled "*Treasurer's Report Fiscal Year 2016*" Jeremy reported FOAL is in a good financial position and its Arlington Community Foundation account is strong. At the moment FOAL has total assets of \$2.287 million across all accounts. FOAL brought in approximately \$300,000 this year, with \$157,337.84 from the fall and spring book sales. Fiscal year 2016 had the best gross book sale in history. FOAL's focus for fiscal year 2016 is finding additional fundraising opportunities and reducing administrative expenses. As of 6/20/16, FOAL is running a deficit of \$17,715.49. FOAL's fiscal year 2017 budget as enacted estimated \$271,000 of income and \$288,000 of expenditures.

- V. Presentation and Vote:** David Evans presented the slate of candidates as follows: President: Kate Summers; Vice President: Linda Goldberg; Secretary: Nada Sulaiman; Treasurer: Jeremy Pevner. David Evans made a motion to accept the slate of candidates. Eva Griffeth seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All were in favor, none opposed, motion passed unanimously.
- VI. Introduction of Guest Author Bill Schweigart:** Kimberly introduced the evening's featured guest, Bill Schweigart. Bill is a local author who writes scary stories that will make your spine tingle as you read. For his chilling thriller, *The Beast of Barcroft*, Bill revives a bit of forgotten lore from the shadow of Washington, D.C., which finds a devilish creature stalking the residents of Arlington. The sequel, *Northwoods*, takes place in the north woods of Wisconsin. Bill is also a former Coast Guard officer who drew from his experiences at sea to write the taut nautical thriller, *Slipping the Cable*. Bill loves being a writer and describes the best thing about it as, "That moment of discovery, when something you hadn't planned springs to mind and it's just a perfect, inspired bit that takes you in a new direction or deepens where you've already been. It's not the fanfare, it's that quiet moment by yourself when you're immersed in the story and you unlock it." Bill's presentation followed.
- VII. Meeting Adjourned: 8:12 PM**